



To: Crissy Canganelli
Amber Lewis
From: Arlinda McKeen, SPPG
Re: Best Practices for Iowa's Homelessness System – Monthly Progress Report – February 2015
Date: February 27, 2015

The Iowa Council on Homelessness/Iowa Finance Authority entered into a contract with State Public Policy Group, Inc. (SPPG) to provide services to continuing to work with the State Planning Advisory Committee and conduct outreach related to finalization and preparation to implement the standards develop in FY 14. Key activities are to further clarifying and defining the homeless program standards, taking into consideration how each standard applies to various programs and delineating measures for each homeless program standard, considering measures appropriate to each program.

Monthly Report for the Period February 1 - 28, 2015

Activities Underway or Completed

- SPPG continues to meet as an internal team to move the project forward smoothly. We also check in and seek advice from IFA staff and the project co-chairs.
- The State Planning Advisory Committee met on February 3, 2015, at the West Des Moines Learning Resource Center. The Committee welcomed new member Susan McGuire from Center for Siouxland to her first meeting.
- Progress on the standards and measures was significant at the February meeting. Comments and suggestions gained from the December outreach sessions and January ICH/SPAC retreat were discussed and incorporated as appropriate into the working documents. As a result, the Operations standards were broken into Governance and Operations sections. Standards were reviewed as a whole to provide a "reality check" on their reasonableness, consistency, and common sense approach.
- Also at the February meeting, the Committee worked through all sections of standards except Performance to finalize the measures. A working group accepted the assignment to draft measures for the performance standards before the March meeting.
- SPPG provided the February 3 meeting notes, updated standards, and updated standards worksheet to the Committee on February 12, 2015.
- SPPG secured meeting space and made logistical arrangements for a two-day March meeting to occur on March 3-4 at the West Des Moines Learning Resource Center.
- SPPG distributed March meeting information to the Committee on February 27.
- SPPG drafted a list of content sections to be included in the handbook; this will be presented and discussed at the March meetings.
- SPPG is cross-checking previous meeting notes, outreach reports, and email communications to identify suggested content to be included in the handbook to guide programs in utilizing standards in their programs.

Emerging Issues or Concerns

- There are no issues at this time.

- SPPG and Committee members appreciate IFA's efforts to help members control their costs associated with an overnight stay for the March two-day meeting.

Anticipated Needs

- None at this time.

Time Frame

- All activities are proceeding on schedule, and holding a two-day session in March will well-position the group from the cancelled January meeting and allow continuity in focus on development of the specific resources to be included in the handbook.